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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: El-Shoubary, *et al.*

Docket No.: 13093

Serial No.: 09 723,098

Examiner: Tae H. Yoon

Filed: November 27, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1714

For: "Organic-acid Phosphate Treated Pigments"

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September 13, 2002

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231  
ATTN: BOX RCE

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Sir:

Applicants hereby submit this Amendment in connection with the accompanying Request for Continued Examination in response to the Final Office Action that was mailed on June 21, 2002. This response is being submitted within the allotted three-month timeframe. Consequently, no fee other than the fee for the Request for Continued Examination is due.

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I hereby declare that on the date provided below this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, ATTN: BOX RCE.

9/13/02  
September 13, 2002

  
Kim Padilla

AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 1 -38, without prejudice.

Please add new claims 39 - 54, which read as follows:

*Sub D1* **39** (New) A polymer matrix comprising:

- a. a pigment, said pigment comprising an inorganic pigmentary base that has been treated with an organo-acid phosphate compound having the formula:



wherein       $x = 1$  or  $2$ ,  
 $y = 3 - x$ , and  
R is an organic group having from 2 to 22 carbon atoms; and

- b. a polymer suitable for plastics applications.

40. (New) The polymer matrix of claim **39**, wherein said inorganic pigmentary base is selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, kaolin, talc, mica and calcium carbonate.

41. (New) The polymer matrix of claim **39**, wherein within the pigment, the organo-acid phosphate compound is present in an amount from about 0.01 percent to about 5 percent by weight based on the weight of the pigmentary base.

42. (New) The polymer matrix of claim **41**, wherein the amount of pigment is from about 50 percent to about 85 percent by weight based on the weight of the polymer matrix.

43. (New) The polymer matrix of claim **39**, wherein said polymer is polyethylene.